

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus comprising:

a cleaning member for collecting toner by contacting a surface of an image bearing body, which bears a toner image;

toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner; and

a toner breaking member disposed in the vicinity of a contact portion between the image bearing body and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in the vicinity of the contact portion,

wherein said toner breaking member moves in association with a toner conveying operation of said toner conveying means, and

wherein said cleaning member includes a layer and a base member, wherein said layer has a hardness, which is higher than a hardness of said base member at least at the contact portion.

Claims 2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said layer is a coating layer.

6. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said layer is formed of a material including nylon in which carbon fluoride is dispersed.

Claims 7 and 8. (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said base member is made of polyurethane.

10. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus comprising:
a cleaning member for collecting toner by contacting a surface of an image bearing body, which bears a toner image;
cleaning member moving means for holding said cleaning member and moving in reciprocation in a longitudinal direction of the image bearing body;
a toner breaking member coupled with said cleaning member moving means and disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between the image bearing body and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in the vicinity of the contact portion; and
toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner,
wherein at least a part of said toner breaking member is disposed at a position where said part interferes with said toner conveying means.

11. (Currently Amended) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said toner conveying means includes a conveying screw, and
said toner breaking member is disposed so as to interfere with a rotational ~~surface~~ region of said conveying screw.

12. (Currently Amended) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said toner breaking member includes a plurality of free end portions, wherein said plurality of free end portions interfere with the rotational ~~surface~~ region of said conveying screw.

13. (Currently Amended) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 10, wherein ~~said layer comprises a coating layer~~ cleaning member includes a layer and a base member, wherein said layer has a hardness, which is higher than a hardness of said base member at least at the contact portion.

14. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said layer is formed of a material including nylon in which carbon fluoride is dispersed.

15. (Previously Presented) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising toner receiving means disposed at an upstream side in an image bearing body moving direction of the contact portion between the image bearing body and said cleaning member for receiving the collected toner by said cleaning member.

16. (Original) A cleaning apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said base member is made of polyurethane.

17. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

image forming means for forming a toner image on a surface of an image bearing body;

transfer means for transferring the toner image on said image bearing body to a recording material;

a cleaning member contacting a surface of said image bearing body for collecting toner;

toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner; and

a toner breaking member disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between said image bearing body and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in a vicinity of the contact portion,

wherein said toner breaking member moves in association with a toner conveying operation of said toner conveying means, and

wherein said cleaning member includes a layer and a base member, wherein said layer has a hardness, which is higher than a hardness of said base member at least at the contact portion.

Claims 18-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said layer is a coating layer.

22. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim ~~17~~ 21, wherein said coating layer is formed of a material including nylon in which carbon fluoride is dispersed.

Claims 23 and 24. (Cancelled).

25. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said base member is made of polyurethane.

26. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus comprising:

- image forming means for forming a toner image on a surface of an image bearing body;
- transfer means for transferring the toner image on said image bearing body to a recording material;
- a cleaning member contacting a surface of said image bearing body for collecting toner;
- cleaning member moving means for holding said cleaning member and moving in reciprocation in a longitudinal direction of said image bearing body;
- a toner breaking member coupled with said cleaning member moving means and disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between said image bearing body and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in the vicinity of the contact portion; and
- toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner,

wherein at least a part of said toner breaking member is located at a position where said part interferes with said toner conveying means.

27. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said toner conveying means includes a conveying screw, and said toner breaking member is disposed so as to interfere with a rotational region of said conveying screw.

28. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said toner breaking member includes a plurality of free end portions, and said plurality of free end portions interfere with the rotational ~~surface~~ region of said conveying screw.

29. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein ~~layer is a coating layer~~ said cleaning member has a coating layer formed of a material with a higher hardness than that of a base member forming said cleaning member at a contact portion at least with said image bearing body.

30. (Previously Presented) An image forming apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said layer is formed of a material including nylon in which carbon fluoride is dispersed.

31. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising toner receiving means disposed at an upstream side in an image bearing body moving direction of the contact portion between said image bearing body and said cleaning member for receiving the collected toner collected by said cleaning member.

32. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said base member is made of polyurethane.

33. (Currently Amended) A cleaning apparatus comprising:

- a cleaning member for collecting toner by abutting a surface of an image bearing member, which bears a toner image;
- toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner;
- a toner breaking ~~means~~ member disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between the image bearing member and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in a vicinity of the contact portion; and
- a supporting member for supporting said toner breaking ~~means~~ member, wherein said supporting member inhibits a transformation of said cleaning member, and
- wherein said toner breaking member moves in association with a toner conveying operation of said toner conveying means.

34. (Currently Amended) A cleaning apparatus comprising:

- a cleaning member for collecting toner by abutting a surface of an image bearing member for bearing a toner image;
- toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner; and
- a toner breaking ~~means~~ member disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between the image bearing member and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in a vicinity of the contact portion,

wherein said toner breaking member includes a folded portion to interfere with said toner conveying means and moves in association with a toner conveying operation of said toner conveying means, and

wherein the folded portion is formed by being folded in a condition that a longitudinal direction of said toner conveying means is angled with respect to a surface of said folded portion.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A cleaning~~ An image forming apparatus comprising:
- ~~an~~ image forming means for forming a toner image ~~in~~ on an image bearing member;
 - a transferring means for transferring the toner image on the image bearing member onto a recording material;
 - a cleaning member for collecting toner by abutting a surface of the image bearing member;
 - toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner;
 - a toner breaking ~~means~~ member disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between said image bearing ~~body~~ member and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in a vicinity of the contact portion; and
 - a supporting member for supporting said toner breaking ~~means~~ member,
wherein said supporting member inhibits a transformation of said cleaning member, and
 - wherein said toner breaking member moves in association with a toner conveying operation of said toner conveying means.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A cleaning~~ An image forming apparatus comprising:

image forming means for forming a toner image ~~in~~ on an image bearing member;

transferring means for transferring the toner image on the image bearing member onto a recording material;

a cleaning member for collecting toner by abutting a surface of the image bearing member;

toner conveying means for conveying the collected toner; and

a toner breaking ~~means~~ member disposed in a vicinity of a contact portion between said image bearing ~~body~~ member and said cleaning member for breaking the collected toner in a vicinity of the contact portion,

wherein said toner breaking member includes a folded portion to interfere with said toner conveying means and moves in association with a toner conveying operation of said toner conveying means, and

wherein the folded portion is formed by being folded in a condition that a longitudinal direction of said toner conveying means is angled with respect to a surface of said folded portion.